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Remarks

It is observed that the Examiner rejected claims 24, 27-39, 43 and 46 as being unpatentable over Zhang in view of Walker, and claims 40-42 as being unpatentable over Zhang in view of Walker and further in view of Tandler.

In view of the above, the applicant has amended claim 24 so as to recite as follows:

A helmet for displaying environmental images in critical environments, comprising at least one video camera and means for displaying environmental images, further comprising a supporting structure that can be anchored to said helmet in order to support said at least one video camera and said display means, said supporting structure comprising a front adapter that can be coupled to a front edge of said helmet, a rear adapter that can be coupled to a rear edge of said helmet, and a rigid connecting element for mutually connecting said front adapter and said rear adapter, further comprising a frame that is mounted detachably on said front adapter, said frame comprising means for supporting said video camera and means for supporting said display means, wherein said frame comprises a bridge-like structure that mutually connects elements for coupling to said front adapter, said elements for coupling being arranged on opposite ends of said bridge-like structure, said bridge-like element extending from left to right, transversely with respect to said front adapter, said elements for coupling being arranged at left and right ends of said bridge-like element, said bridge-like element protruding from the front adapter so as to space said display means in front of the eyes of a person that wears said helmet, said display means being rotatable upward to be placed substantially in line with said front adapter.

The new claim 24 thus recites, in addition to the features of previously amended claim 24, that *said bridge-like element extending from left to right, transversely*

with respect to said frame, said elements for coupling being arranged at left and right ends of said bridge-like element, said bridge-like element protruding from the front adapter so as to space said display means in front of the eyes of a person that wears said helmet, said display means being rotatable upward to be placed substantially in line with said front adapter.

Accordingly, the applicant has amended claim 24 so as to define how the bridge-like element is arranged with respect to the front adapter and where the elements for coupling are arranged.
In addition, the applicant has detailed the movement that can be performed by the display means to pass from an operative position to an inoperative position, where the display means are rotated upward and arrive to be positioned substantially in line with the front adapter.

Such arrangement is not disclosed or suggested in Zhang even when combined with Walker. In fact, Zhang does not disclose a helmet having a frame that comprises a bridge like structure that mutually connects elements for coupling to the front adapter, with the coupling elements arranged on opposite ends of the bridge-like structure, with the bridge like structure that extends transversely with respect to the front adapter. Zhang does not also disclose elements for coupling arranged at the left and right end of the bridge-like element, which support the display means.
Zhang discloses a front keeper that could be assimilated to the applicant's front adapter, and a front mount that should be assimilated to the applicant's frame. However, the frame of Zhang does not comprise e bridge-like structure that mutually connects elements for coupling to the front adapter, with the coupling elements arranged on opposite ends of the bridge-like structure, as defined in applicant's claim 24 and illustrated in figures 6d, 6e and 6f of the present application.

The provision of the bridge-like structure with its side coupling elements allows to mount a video camera and a display substantially irrespective of their weights.
In fact, the weight comes to be equally distributed on the frame that is connected to the front portion of the helmet, and thus the weight is also distributed on the whole front portion of the helmet whereon the frame is mounted. This guarantees that who wears the helmet can easily bear the weight of the equipment that is mounted on the helmet, without any problem.
The above arrangement allows to mount a large display, that is essential for the user and for the functionality of the device, spaced from the eyes of the person that wears the helmet.
The display means can be rotated upward when the user needs a clear view of the surroundings, without the need of the camera.
When the display means are rotated upward, they arrive to be substantially in line with the front adapter..
On the contrary, the arrangement claimed in Zhang does not allow an even distribution of the loads since the front keeper is adapted to receive the front mount (frame) with a central connection (male interface). The result is that the load that can be imposed on the frame is much lower that the load that the applicant's frame can bear.

Therefore, in view of the above, the applicant strongly maintains that amended claim 24 is both new and unobvious over the cited prior art documents.
The application is believed to be in order for acceptance and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

However, the applicant is open to any suggestion the Examiner may have to improve the wording of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel O'Byrne (Reg. No. 36,625)

Agent for the Applicant

Date: October 7, 2010
Address: Via Meravigli 16, 20123 MILAN-ITALY
Telephone: (from USA) (011)(39)(02)8590-7777
Telefax: (from USA)(011)(39)(02)863-860